

Medicare Has a New Way to Pay for Hospital Outpatient Services



The new system applies to outpatient services you get on or after August 1, 2000. Depending on the service and where you get it, your out-of-pocket costs may be higher or lower than they were in the past for the same service. However, over time, these changes will lower your out-of-pocket costs for outpatient services.

If you want to know more about this new system, call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227, TTY/TDD: 1-877-486-2048 for the hearing and speech impaired). Ask for the brochure called "Outpatient Prospective Payment System." It will be mailed to you at no cost.

If you have questions about your outpatient bill, call your provider or call the number listed at the top of your Medicare Summary Notice or Explanation of Medicare Benefits.

You can get individual help with your Medicare questions from your State Health Insurance Assistance Program. Call 1-800-MEDICARE for the phone number in your State.

